

# ROADWAYS

## Bicyclists are safer on the road.

This makes bicyclists more visible to motorists.

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## What is a sharrow?

Sharrows are shared lane markers that indicate proper lane positioning for bicyclists.

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## How should bikes and cars navigate through an intersection with a bike lane?

**MOTORISTS** turning right should wait to move into the right-hand turn lane until the bike lane becomes a dashed line, if present, and then carefully check the bike lane for bicyclists before merging into the right-hand turn lane. Allow the bicyclist to continue straight before completing your turn.

**BICYCLISTS** going straight through the intersection should follow the bike lane as it shifts from the right side of the road to the left side of the right-turn lane, being cautious to be seen by all motorists at the intersection.

# BICYCLISTS

## Bicyclists must obey all signals and signs.

Just like any other driver on the road, bicyclists must stop at stop signs and red lights.

This makes them more predictable to drivers, and safer on the road.

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## Bicyclists must use turn signals.

By extending your left or right arm out to the side, communicate your intentions to motorists.

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## Must be visible.

Equipping your bike with front and rear lights and wearing brightly colored clothing will make you more visible to motorists.

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## Bicyclists should ride with traffic.

## Be predictable.

Ride in a straight line and do not swerve between cars. Use hand signals and check behind you before you turn or change lanes.

# MOTORISTS

## Do not open vehicle doors in a way that blocks bicycles.

Watch for approaching bicyclists before you open your door.

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## Watch out for bicycles, especially when turning right.

Bicycle-related crashes frequently happen when vehicles are turning at intersections and out of driveways and do not notice a smaller, less visible bicyclist.

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## Do not park in the bike lane.

## Do not drive in bike lanes.

## Leave 5 feet when passing a bicyclist.

Even if you have to slow down and wait for enough room to pass the bicyclist, leaving 5 feet of space is required.



# IMPROVE YOUR ROAD RELATIONSHIPS

If you've been on the roads in Grand Rapids, you've probably noticed some changes in the past few years. New bike lanes have been added to many streets in order to:

- Improve safety for bicyclists
- Help clarify where bicyclists should be on a road
- Improve predictability of all road users

The introduction of new bike lanes has led to a lot of discussion and often confusion about how motorists and bicyclists should interact on the roads.

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**The Driving Change campaign is part of an ongoing effort to help decrease the number of crashes and fatalities.**

As part of that effort, please use this guide to learn more about rules and best practices for safe riding and driving.

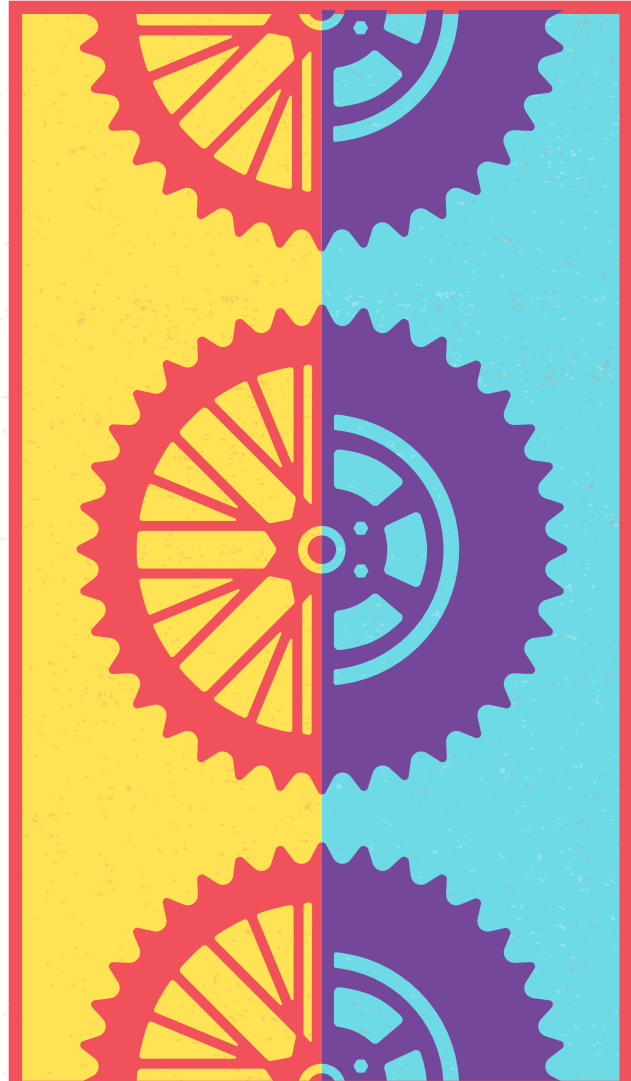
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**Whether you're in a car or on a bicycle, we are all drivers on our roads. Together, we can work to improve our road relationships and drive change in Grand Rapids.**



## DRIVING CHANGE

Visit [GRDrivingChange.org](http://GRDrivingChange.org)  
to learn more about this initiative.



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